

SUBD 1
A1
circuitry for controlling the amplitude of a received second audio signal in response to a first control signal, and providing a third audio signal;

wherein the circuit for controlling the amplitude further comprises circuitry that receives the first audio signal and provides the second audio signal for automatically limiting the amplitude of the first audio signal in response to at least one reference signal;

wherein the circuitry for automatically limiting the amplitude of the first audio signal comprises:

~ circuitry, that receives the second audio signal, for providing an output signal in response to the amplitude of the second signal; 220

~ circuitry for comparing the output signal and said at least one reference signal and providing a second control signal in response to the output signal and said at least one reference signal; and 230

~ circuitry, that receives the first audio signal and that is controlled in response to the second control signal, for providing the second audio signal.

SUB 2
A2
3. (Amended) A circuit according to claim [2] 1, wherein the circuitry for providing the output signal; the circuitry for providing the second control signal; and the circuitry for providing the second audio signal are implemented by analog and/or digital [means] circuitry.

4. (Amended) A circuit according to claim [2] 1, wherein the circuitry for providing: the output signal; the second control signal; and for providing the second audio signal are implemented by hardware digital circuitry.

SUB 3
P4
A3
7. (Amended) A circuit according to claim [2] 1, wherein the circuitry for providing the output signal is a Root-Mean Square extractor circuitry; the circuitry for providing the second control signal is an integrating comparator; and the circuitry for providing the second audio signal is an attenuator.

SUB 3
P4
A4
11. (Amended) A circuit according to claim 1, [wherein it is included in] further comprising circuitry and/or an apparatus that receives television signals.

a5
SUB P9
13. (Amended) A circuit according to claim 1, [wherein it is included in] further comprising circuitry and/or an apparatus that receives satellite signals.

SUB D9
a6
15. (Amended) A circuit according to claim 1, [wherein it is included in] further comprising circuitry and/or an apparatus that receives radio signals.

SUB D10
a7
17. (Amended) A method for processing broadcast signals that comprises the steps of:
receiving and processing broadcast signals, which signals contain audio information, and
providing a first audio signal; and
controlling the amplitude of a received second audio signal in response to a first control
signal and providing a third audio signal; and
automatically limiting the amplitude of the first audio signal in response to at least one
reference signal and providing a second audio signal;
wherein the step of automatically limiting the amplitude of the first audio signal
comprises:
providing an output signal in response to the amplitude of the second signal;
comparing the output signal and said at least one reference signal and providing a second
control signal in response to the output signal and said at least one reference signal; and
receiving the first audio signal and controlling said first audio signal in response to the
second control signal, for providing the second audio signal.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections in this application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks. By this amendment, claims 2 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice, and claims 1, 3-4, 7, 11, 13, 15, and 17 have been amended. Currently, claims 1, 3-17, and 19-21 are pending in this application. The indication that claims 2, 4, 7-10 and 18-21 contain allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. A drawing correction authorization request is being submitted concurrently herewith.